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	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-01	PM-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

INFO RWANDA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, EAID, PHUM, OVIP, OTRA, RW, BY, CG

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MISSION RETURNS FROM CENTRAL AFRICA;

- RECOMMENDATIONS TRACK CLOSELY WITH U.S.G. POLICY

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1. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: SINCE RETURNING TO THE U.S. AUGUST 31, THE HIGH LEVEL PRESIDENTIAL MISSION TO CENTRAL AFRICA HAS HELPED FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON U.S. HUMANITARIAN AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN THE REGION. MISSION MEMBERS HELD A PRESS BRIEFING AT THE WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATELY AFTER DEPLANING AT ANDREWS. CO-CHAIR C. PAYNE LUCAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPEARED ON THE MACNEIL-LEHRER NEWS HOUR WITH A/S MOOSE. ASPEN INSTITUTE PRESIDENT FRED STARR WROTE AN OP-ED PIECE ON RWANDA FOR THE WASHINGTON POST. MISSION MEMBERS' RECOMMENDATIONS CLOSELY TRACK WITH CURRENT U.S.

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POLICY IN THE REGION. THEY URGE RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS, ESTABLISHMENT OF A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, MEASURES TO IMPROVE SECURITY IN THE ZAIRIAN CAMPS, AND IFI ASSISTANCE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR IN RWANDA. THEY FEAR BURUNDI IS ON THE BRINK OF ETHNIC UNREST, AND WARN THAT

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MAY HAVE ONLY ANOTHER MONTH OR SO TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION TALKS. MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MISSION ARE PREPARING A WRITTEN REPORT OF THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NSC. END SUMMARY.

3. ON THEIR RETURN FROM CENTRAL AFRICA AUGUST 31, PRESIDENTIAL MISSION MEMBERS PROCEEDED FROM ANDREWS DIRECTLY TO THE WHITE HOUSE FOR A SHORT PRESS BRIEF ALSO ATTENDED BY A/S MOOSE. THE FOLLOWING DAY, THEY PROVIDED A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORE DETAILED DEBRIEF AT THE DEPARTMENT FOR A/S MOOSE AND AN ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE OF APPROXIMATELY 25 STATE, AID, DOD, CIA, AND NSC PERSONNEL.

4. MISSION CO-CHAIR C. PAYNE LUCAS AND A/S MOOSE APPEARED TOGETHER ON THE MACNEIL-LEHRER NEWS HOUR SEPTEMBER 1. LUCAS'S LAUDATORY REMARKS ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MILITARY IN THE RELIEF OPERATION WERE ALSO QUOTED IN A SEPTEMBER 5 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON THE PLANNED REDUCTION OF U.S. FORCES IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN THEATER. ON SEPTEMBER 6, THE POST PUBLISHED AN OP-ED PIECE BY MISSION MEMBER FRED STARR, PRESIDENT OF THE ASPEN INSTITUTE, WHO ARGUED THAT THE U.S. MUST REMAIN ENGAGED IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI. MISSION CO-CHAIR REP. DONALD PAYNE WAS INTERVIEWED SEPARATELY ABOUT THE RWANDA MISSION BY A NEWSPAPER FROM HIS NEW JERSEY DISTRICT.

FINDINGS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF MISSION TRACK WITH U.S. POLICY
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5. MOST OF THE WASHINGTON-BASED MISSION MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE SEPTEMBER 1 DEBRIEF AT THE DEPARTMENT. THEY INCLUDED CO-CHAIRS C. PAYNE LUCAS AND REP. DONALD PAYNE, CHARLES BREMER OF THE NATIONAL BLACK CAUCUS OF STATE LEGISLATORS, MELVIN FOOTE OF THE CONSTITUENCY FOR AFRICA, LONNIE TURNIPSEED OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, ASSISTANT TO THE DEFENSE SECRETARY FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS TODD ULMER, AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS RICH GARON, TOM GENTON, TOM CALLAHAN, AND NADEREH CHAHMIRZAHDI.

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6. THEIR ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IN THE SUBREGION AND
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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION CLOSELY MATCH THOSE OF THE
DEPARTMENT:

, - U.S. RELIEF OPERATION: THEY GAVE HIGH PRAISE TO THE
HUMANITARIAN RELIEF OPERATION CONDUCTED BY THE U.S.
MILITARY AND USAID. LONNIE TURNIPSEED OF CHURCH WORLD
SERVICE HAILED THE OPERATION AS "AN IMPRESSIVE LOGISTICAL
ACHIEVEMENT" AND COMMENDED THE ARMED FORCES FOR WORKING SO
CLOSELY WITH THE UN AND PRIVATE NGOS. HOWEVER MISSION
CO-CHAIR C. PAYNE LUCAS NOTED THAT THERE REMAINS A NEED
FOR IMPROVED CAMP ORGANIZATION AND SANITATION.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS: THEY URGED IMMEDIATE
DEPLOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS. SEVERAL OF THE
PARTICIPANTS COMMENTED THAT THE UN IS MOVING TOO SLOWLY ON
THIS FRONT. SFRC STAFFER CHAHMIRZAHDI ARGUED THAT THE
MONITORS ARE "THE MOST PRESSING NEED" IN RWANDA. UN
EFFORTS ARE "BARELY OFF THE GROUND," SHE COMPLAINED, AND
THE CURRENT TARGET OF 26 MONITORS IS MUCH TOO LOW FOR THE
TASK AT HAND.

-- SECURITY IN REFUGEE CAMPS: THEY STRESSED THE NEED TO
IMPROVE SECURITY IN REFUGEE CAMPS IN ZAIRE. C. PAYNE
LUCAS CITED THE PROBLEM OF HUTU MILITIAS IN THE CAMPS AND
THE UNDISCIPLINED ZAIRIAN ARMED FORCES. TODD ULMER OF OSD
SAID BLUNTLY THAT THE FAZ IS "PART OF THE PROBLEM, NOT
PART OF THE SOLUTION." SFRC MINORITY COUNSEL TOM CALLAHAN
NOTED THAT THE U.S.G. NEEDS TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE
REALITY THAT IT MAY HAVE TO WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH MOBUTU
IN ORDER TO ENHANCE REFUGEE SECURITY IN ZAIRE. REP. PAYNE

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SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO DEPLOY UN
PEACEKEEPERS TO THE CAMPS TO DISARM THE EX-FAR AND HUTU
MILITIAS, AND TO CRACK DOWN ON HATE RADIO BROADCASTS.

-- WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL: THEY ARGUED FOR EARLY ACTION TO
CREATE A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL FOR PROSECUTION OF THOSE
RESPONSIBLE FOR GENOCIDE. THE SFRC'S CALLAHAN SAID THIS

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WOULD REQUIRE BOTH U.S. DIPLOMATIC SKILL AT THE UN TO CONVINCE OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SUPPORT THE PLAN, AND U.S. ASSETS TO HELP FINANCE THE TRIBUNAL. LONNIE TURNIPSEED OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SAID IT WAS CRUCIAL TO PROCEED WITH THE TRIBUNAL IN ORDER TO PROSECUTE THE CASES BEFORE THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE DETERIORATED. HE WARNED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD INVITE FUTURE MASSACRES IF IT FAILED TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GENOCIDE IN RWANDA. SEVERAL MISSION MEMBERS, INCLUDING REP. PAYNE, NOTED THAT TO BE EFFECTIVE THE TRIBUNAL MUST BE HEADED BY A RESPECTED, HIGH-PROFILE JURIST OF RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL STATURE.

-- AID TO NEW RWANDAN GOVERNMENT: THEY SUPPORTED AID FOR RESTORATION OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE TO RWANDA. SFRC'S CHAHMIRZAHDI EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOR NEEDS AID NOT ONLY TO PROVIDE BASIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES, BUT ALSO TO DEVELOP NEW PROGRAMS IN AREAS OF PRIORITY CONCERN TO THE INTERNATIONAL

COMMUNITY (E.G., UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN). CHAHMIRZAHDI ARGUES THAT WE SHOULD BEGIN CONSULTATIONS NOW WITH THE IFIS TO SUPPLY THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE. TURNIPSEED STRESSED THE NEED FOR "IMMEDIATE AID" TO PROVIDE POWER, WATER, AND COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES FOR THE NEW

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GOVERNMENT. HE NOTED THAT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE GOR THINKS IT NEEDS IS QUITE SMALL -- LESS THAN USD TEN MILLION, HE RECALLED.

-- RISK OF CONFLICT IN BURUNDI: THEY WARNED THAT BURUNDI IS AT HIGH RISK OF AN OUTBREAK OF ETHNIC CONFLICT. MISSION CO-CHAIR C. PAYNE LUCAS SAID FLATLY THAT "BURUNDI IS GOING TO GO." HE ARGUES THAT WE NEED TO PUT RESOURCES INTO BURUNDI URGENTLY IN SUPPORT OF THE SUCCESSION TALKS. HE THINKS WE MAY HAVE ONLY "FOUR TO SIX WEEKS TO ACT, BEFORE THE POLITICAL SITUATION DEVOLVES IRRETRIEVABLY. COMMENTING ON THE SOURCES OF BURUNDI'S INSTABILITY, LUCAS NOTED COMPLAINTS BY SOME LOCAL OFFICIALS THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE FOR RAPID PROGRESS ON DEMOCRATIZATION HAD PROMPTED THE OCTOBER COUP.

-- CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC ATTENTION: THEY WORRY THAT PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION IS SLIPPING FROM CENTRAL AFRICA. RICH GARON, THE HFAC MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR ARGUED THAT CONGRESS IS SINCERE IN WANTING TO ALLEVIATE THE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER BUT HAS BEEN

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FRUSTRATED BY THE SERIES OF EXPENSIVE CRISES IN AFRICA IN RECENT YEARS. REP. PAYNE SAID HE WOULD WORK TO KEEP CENTRAL AFRICA ON THE HOUSE'S FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA. HE ALSO COMMITTED TO CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON THE POSSIBLE NEED FOR LEGISLATION TO PERMIT EXTRADITION OF RWANDANS IN THE U.S. WHO ARE SUSPECTED OF DIRECTING THE GENOCIDE

A/S MOOSE DESCRIBES U S. POLICY PRIORITIES IN THE REGION

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7. IN HIS REMARKS TO THE GROUP, A/S MOOSE THANKED THEM FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO TRAVEL TO CENTRAL AFRICA UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS. HE THEN OUTLINED U.S. POLICY PRIORITIES IN THE REGION:

-- A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL IS NECESSARY, NOT ONLY TO DISSUADE A REPEAT OF THE GENOCIDE ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, BUT ALSO TO ADVANCE THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS IN RWANDA.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS MUST BE DEPLOYED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN SLOW IN PART BECAUSE IT

IS THE FIRST TIME THE U.N. COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HAS TRIED TO ORGANIZE ANYTHING LIKE IT. HE NOTED THAT THE U.S. IS CONTRIBUTING MONITORS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO BE ON THE GROUND BY MID-SEPTEMBER.

, - THE NEW RWANDAN GOVERNMENT SO FAR IS SAYING AND TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THINGS. BUT IT DESPERATELY NEEDS FOREIGN RESOURCES TO REPAIR THE COUNTRY'S PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDE BASIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

-- SECURITY IN THE CAMPS IN ZAIRE IS THE BIGGEST IMMEDIATE PROBLEM. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT TO FIND A SOLUTION. OUR APPROACH WILL BE "ENTIRELY PRAGMATIC," HE SAID; WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO WORK WITH MOBUTU.

8. MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MISSION ARE PREPARING A WRITTEN REPORT OF THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
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